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09/489,134	01/21/2000	William J. Baer	STL000012US1	5405

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EXAMINER
PHAM, HUNG Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2168	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/489,134	BAER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HUNG Q. PHAM	2168	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 April 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-29,31,33-59,61,63-89 and 91-99* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-29,31,33-59,61,63-89 and 91-99* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *04/23/07*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/23/07 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The rejection of claims 1, 31 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, has been withdrawn in view of the amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- Applicant's arguments with respect to the rejection of claims 1, 31 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

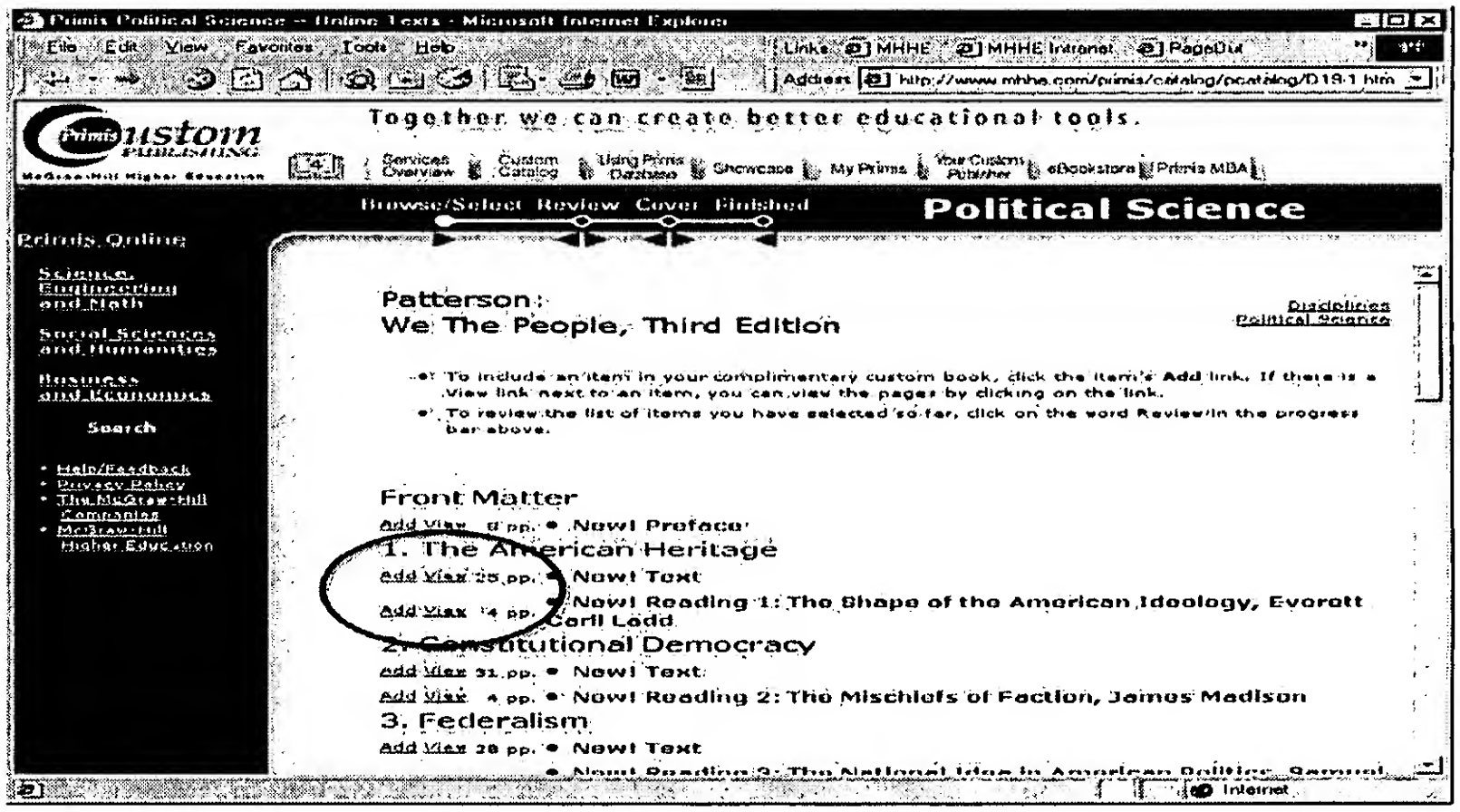
As argued by applicant at page 27:

> *... There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion of enabling a user to specify a different title for the new book portion (other than the title of the selected portion from the book or chapter from which that portion was selected) as recited in the claims.*

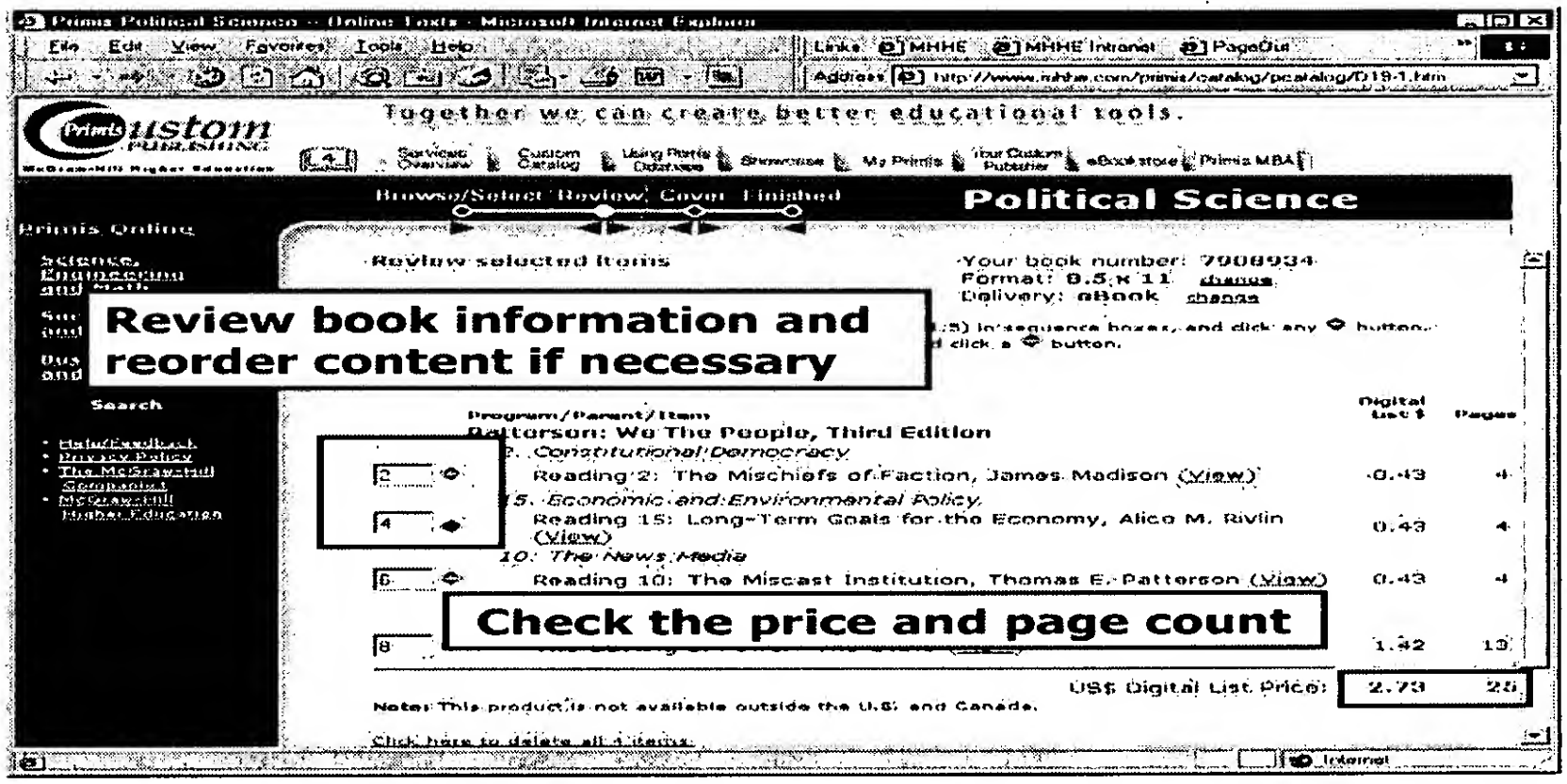
The examiner respectfully disagrees.

As shown in slide 1, a section as ***an object***, e.g., "The Mischiefs of Faction, James Madison", is selected by a user to add to the ***content object***, e.g., e-book that has book number 7908934 as in slide 2, a chapter title, e.g., "The American Heritage" as ***a tile for at least one of said***

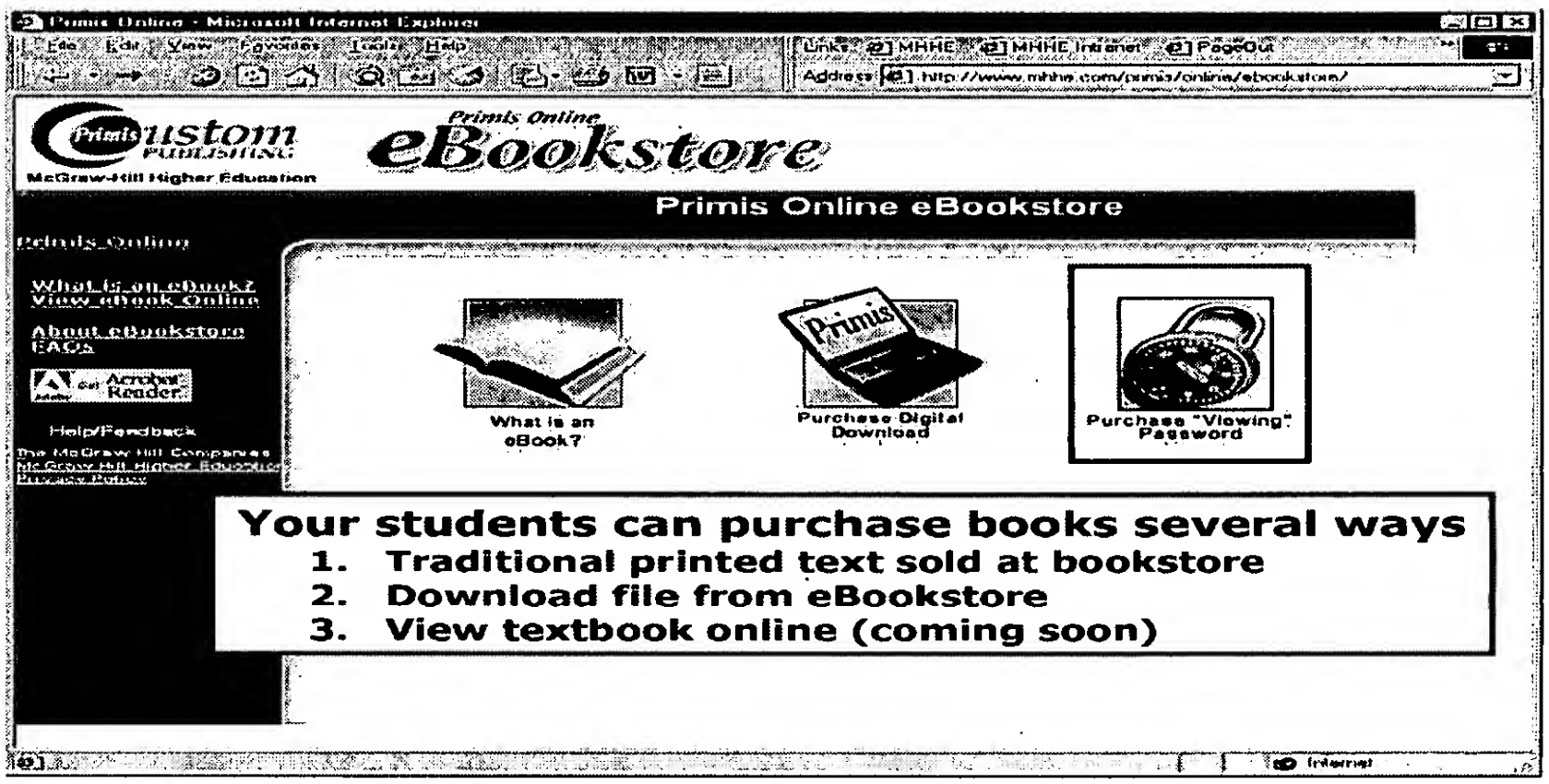
hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier, is enabled for specifying in the e-book. The chapter title, e.g., "The American Heritage", is ***different than the title of a corresponding selected object***, e.g., "The Mischiefs of Faction, James Madison". In short, the technique of specifying the chapter title corresponding to a selected section indicates the step of ***enabling specification by said user of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier different than said title of a corresponding selected object.***



Slide 1



Slide 2



Slide 3

In light of the foregoing arguments, the rejection of claims 1, 31 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is sustained.

- Claims 6 - 8, 11-23, 25-28, 36-38, 41-53, 55- 58, 66-68, 71-83, 85-88, 91, 94 and 97 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 1, 31 or 61. These claims are unpatentable for substantially the same reasons discussed above in relation to their parent claims.

- Claims 3, 29, 33, 59, 63 and 89 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 1, 31 or 61. These claims are unpatentable for substantially the same reasons discussed above in relation to their parent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 31 and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1, the clauses, ***said selected object*** (Lines 11 and 16), ***each selected object*** (Line 15) and ***said specified location*** (Line 15), reference to other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced.

Regarding claim 31, the clauses, ***said selected object*** (Lines 12 and 17), ***each selected object*** (Line 16) and ***said specified location*** (Line 16), reference to other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced.

Regarding claim 61, the clauses, ***said selected object*** (Lines 10 and 15), ***each selected object*** (Line 14) and ***said specified location*** (Line 14), reference to other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1, 6-8, 11-23, 25-28, 31, 36-38, 41-53, 55-58, 61, 66-68, 71-83, 85-88, 91, 94 and 97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over The McGraw-Hill Companies [McGraw Hill Primis Custom Publishing] in view of Santamaki et al. [USP 6,886,036 B1].

Regarding claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill teaches a method and system for creating a customized e-book (Page 3, "What is Primis Database Publishing") as ***a content object being one of a book*** from ***a collection of content stored in a digital library having one or more object servers, wherein the content object includes a user defined hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier*** (*a collection of content* is illustrated in Pages 5-10. The *collection of content* is stored at the McGraw Hill website as *a digital library*, the McGraw-Hill website has an eBookstore for

downloading file (Slide 3) as *one or more object servers*. Materials from the collection of content are added to the customized e-book via the GUI of Slide 1. The user can arrange the hierarchical structure of the customized e-book, e.g., Title, Chapters, Sections and Texts, via the GUI of Slide 2. This teaching indicates the claimed limitation *the content object*, e.g., customized e-book, *includes a user defined hierarchical structure*, e.g., Book Number, Chapters, Sections and Texts, *including at least on hierarchical tier*, e.g., Book Number, *and at least one subordinate tier*, e.g., Chapter);

presenting a plurality of selectable objects from the digital library to a user for inclusion in the content object, each selectable object representing a subset of the collection of content and including a title (The GUI of Slide 1 also indicates the step of *presenting a plurality of selectable objects from the digital library to a user for inclusion in the content object*, e.g., "New! Text" and "New! Reading 1: The Shape of the American Ideology, Everett Carl Ladd", *each selectable object representing a subset of the collection of content and including a title* as in Pages 5-10);

enabling selection by a user of one or more of said selectable objects and specification by said user of a location for said selected objects within said hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier, creating a content object including a hierarchical compilation of the content represented by each selected object in accordance with said assignment of said selected objects by said user (The *add* button via the GUI of Slide 1 *enabling selection by a user of one or more of said selectable objects*. The teaching at Page 3 and Slide 3 indicates *enabling specification by said user of a location for said selected objects within said hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier*. The customized e-book that has book number 7908934 as *content object* is created. The created customized e-book *includes a hierarchical compilation of the content represented by each selected object*, Chapter "Patterson: We The People" and Section "Constitutional Democracy". The Chapter "Patterson: We The People" and Section "Constitutional Democracy" as *hierarchical compilation of the content* are *represented by each selected object*, e.g., via the GUI of Slide 1, object "Reading 2: The Mischiefs of Faction, James Madison" is selected, *in accordance with said specified location for said*

selected objects by said user, e.g., the Chapters and Section is in accordance with the specified location as in Slide 3);

enabling specification by said user of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier different than said title of a corresponding selected object (As shown in slide 1, a section as *an object*, e.g., "The Mischiefs of Faction, James Madison", is selected by a user to add to the *content object*, e.g., e-book that has book number 7908934 as in slide 2, a chapter title, e.g., "The American Heritage" as *a tile for at least one of said hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier*, is enabled for specifying in the e-book. The chapter title, e.g., "The American Heritage", is *different than the title of a corresponding selected object*, e.g., "The Mischiefs of Faction, James Madison". In short, the technique of specifying the chapter title corresponding to a selected section indicates the step of *enabling specification by said user of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier different than said title of a corresponding selected object*);

storing said content object in said one or more object servers (As further discloses by McGraw Hill, after creating the customized e-book, the e-book could be downloaded from eBookstore. This technique implies the customized e-book as *the content object* is *stored in* eBookstore as *one or more object servers*);

storing information specifying the content object and attribute information concerning the content object (As show in Slide 2, *information specifying the content object*, e.g., Page Count, and *attribute information concerning the content object*, e.g., Price, are stored in accordance with the created e-book).

The missing of McGraw Hill is a *library server* for storing the information and attribute of the e-book.

As disclosed by Santamaki at Col. 5, Lines 6-16, a centralized server for storing the electronic written materials, and an e-book server for storing selected electronic written

materials that have been converted into an electronic book format to subsequent download to a terminal for viewing.

Thus, the Santamaki teaching of centralized server as *library server*, obviously, could be used for storing *information specifying the content object*, e.g., Page Count, and *attribute information concerning the content object*, e.g., Price.

By using centralized server as *library server* for storing information and attributes, these particular features of an e-book could be keep tracked and retrieved in accordance with the user that creates the e-book.

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a library server as taught by Santamaki in order to keep track and retrieve the information and attribute with respect to the created e-book.

Regarding claims 6, 36 and 66, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the collection of content comprises hierarchically related data*** (page 7).

Regarding claims 7, 37 and 67, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 6, 36 and 66, McGraw-Hill further disclose ***the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a section*** (pages 3 and 7).

Regarding claims 8, 38 and 68, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61,

McGraw-Hill further discloses ***displaying to the user the selected objects such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface*** (Review and Resequence, page 9).

Regarding claims 11, 41 and 71, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses the step of ***receiving content input by a user and creating a selectable object from the content*** (pages 5-7).

Regarding claims 12, 42 and 72, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the user may concurrently create a plurality of content objects*** (pages 7, 9 and 12).

Regarding claims 13, 43 and 73, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses the step ***presenting the content object to a user for modification after creation of the compilation*** (page Review and Resequence of page 9).

Regarding claims 14, 44 and 74, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 13, 43 and 73, McGraw-Hill further discloses the step of ***creating a copy of the content object, applying changes input by a user to the copy, and creating a new content object therefrom*** (page 3).

Regarding claims 15, 45 and 75, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 13, 43 and 73, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the user may select an object for removal from the content object*** (Microsoft Powerpoint presentation presenting how to user Primis Online).

Regarding claims 16, 46 and 76, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the user may select to clear the content object*** (Microsoft Powerpoint presentation presenting how to user Primis Online).

Regarding claims 17, 47 and 77, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill does not explicitly disclose ***the user may select to undo an operation affecting the content object***. However, undo an operation that affecting a compilation is a conventional operation such as the undo in Word Editor. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill method by including the technique of undoing an object from a compilation in order to compile a document.

Regarding claims 18, 48 and 78, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses the claimed ***submitting the content object to an approval process after creation of the compilation*** (Microsoft Powerpoint presentation presenting how to user Primis Online).

Regarding claims 19, 49 and 79, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 18, 48 and 78, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the approval process further comprises approving the content object for publication*** (Microsoft Powerpoint presenting how to user Primis Online).

Regarding claims 20, 50 and 80, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects*** (page 7).

Regarding claims 21, 51 and 81, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects*** (pages 5-7).

Regarding claims 22, 52 and 82, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 21, 51 and 81, McGraw-Hill further discloses the step of ***partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and presenting all selectable objects belonging to a category to a user*** (page 5).

Regarding claims 23, 53 and 83, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses the step of ***receiving search criteria input by the user; determining which of***

the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria; and presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of content satisfying the search criteria (pages 5-6).

Regarding claims 25, 55 and 85, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***a selectable object further comprises one of a container and a content entity*** (page 7).

Regarding claims 26, 56 and 86, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 25, 55 and 85, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***in response to selection of the container to add to the content object, adding the selected container and any containers or content entities it contains to the content object*** (Microsoft Powerpoint presentation presenting how to user Primis Online).

Regarding claims 27, 57 and 87, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the selectable objects further comprise titles of their associated subsets of content*** (page 7).

Regarding claims 28, 58 and 88, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 25, 55 and 85, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter*** (page 7).

Regarding claims 91, 94 and 97, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the compilation of content is created automatically in response to the user selecting said one or more of said objects*** (page 7).

Claims 3, 29, 33, 59, 63 and 89 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over The McGraw-Hill Companies [McGraw Hill Primis Custom Publishing], Santamaki et al. [USP 6,886,036 B1] in view of Mortimer et al. [USP 6,091,930].

Regarding claims 3, 33 and 63, McGraw-Hill/Warnock, Santamaki and Mortimer, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 2, 32 and 62, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***subsets of content comprise one of a chapter and sections of a text document*** (McGraw-Hill, page 7).

Regarding claims 29, 59 and 89, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 25, 55 and 85, McGraw-Hill further discloses ***the collection of content comprises at least one of a book*** (McGraw-Hill, page 5). McGraw-Hill does not teach ***the collection of content comprises at least one of image album and videos***. Mortimer teaches a technique of creating a customized student book and the collection of content comprises image album and a video (Mortimer, FIG. 2a). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill method by including image and video in the collection of content in order to construct an electronic book embedded with image and video.

Claims 4, 5, 34, 35, 64 and 65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over The McGraw-Hill Companies [McGraw Hill Primis Custom Publishing], Santamaki et al. [USP 6,886,036 B1] in view of ksinclair.com [Free E-books You Can Download].

Regarding claims 4, 34 and 64, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, but fails to disclose ***each selectable object is associated with a cost, and further comprising the step of calculating a cost for the created content object based upon the costs of the selected objects***. Ksinclair.com has a website that presenting a plurality of e-books to a user and a user could open or download the e-book to the user site by selecting the title of an e-book. Ksinclair.com further discloses ***each selectable object is associated with a cost*** but fails to disclose the step of ***calculating a cost for the created content object based upon the costs of the selected objects***. However, a cost for a created compilation is a service charge based on the cost of maintaining an object such as an e-book and could be calculated upon the cost of that e-book. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill method by applying the cost of an object from ksinclair.com method and including the cost of created compilation based upon the cost of the object in order to maintain the system.

Regarding claims 5, 35 and 65, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill further disclosed the step of ***determining a content count for the content object*** (McGraw-Hill, page 7), but not the step of ***determining a cost for the content object based upon the content count***. Ksinclair.com has a website that presenting a plurality of e-books to a user and a user could

open or download the e-book to the user site by selecting the title of an e-book. The downloadable ksinclair.com e-book has a cost associated with the e-book (ksinclair.com). Thus the cost of the compilation for a particular chapter could be calculated based upon the content count. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill method by applying the cost of an object from ksinclair.com method and including the cost of created compilation based upon the content count in order to maintain the system.

Claims 9, 10, 24, 39, 40, 54, 69, 70, 84, 92, 93, 95, 96, 98 and 99 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by The McGraw-Hill Companies [McGraw Hill Primis Custom Publishing], Santamaki et al. [USP 6,886,036 B1] in view of Poole et al. [USP 6,006, 242].

Regarding claims 9, 39 and 69, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, but does not disclose the step of ***defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content; creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum***. Poole teaches an apparatus and method for dynamically constructing an electronic document for subsequent publication in pre-printed or electronic form (Poole, Col. 1, Lines 15-20). Poole further discloses the step of ***defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content; creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum*** (Poole, FIG. 17). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill technique by including the step of defining a maximum amount of content in order to compile an e-book online.

Regarding claims 10, 40 and 70, McGraw-Hill/Warnock, Santamaki and Poole, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 9, 39 and 69, Poole further discloses the step of ***displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes*** (Poole, Col. 11, lines 25-50).

Regarding claims 24, 54 and 84, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, but does not explicitly disclose ***at least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content and upon selection by the user of a selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also including the associated prerequisite subsets of content in the created content object.*** Poole teaches an apparatus and method for dynamically constructing an electronic document for subsequent publication in pre-printed or electronic form (Poole, Col. 1, Lines 15-20). Poole further discloses ***at least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content and upon selection by the user of a selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also including the associated prerequisite subsets of content in the created content object*** (Col. 7, Lines 1-6). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill technique to include the nested object in order to compile an e-book with embedded pictures or graphics.

Regarding claims 92, 95 and 98, McGraw-Hill/Warnock and Santamaki, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 31 and 61, McGraw-Hill does not explicitly disclose ***the compilation of content is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the compilation, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated***

with the selected object. Poole teaches an apparatus and method for dynamically constructing an electronic document for subsequent publication in pre-printed or electronic form (Poole, Col. 1, Lines 15-20). Poole further discloses ***the compilation of content is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the compilation, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated with the selected object*** (FIG. 5). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill technique by referencing the content entities in order to compile an e-book.

Regarding claims 93, 96 and 99, McGraw-Hill/Warnock, Santamaki and Poole, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claims 92, 95 and 98, Poole further discloses ***the computer-readable structure defining the compilation in a custom content outline (CCO) containing the references that correspond to the selected objects, and wherein said references are identifiers of the content entities associated with the selected objects*** (FIG. 5).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q. PHAM whose telephone number is 571-272-4040. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TIM T. VO can be reached on 571-272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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